

House Bill 394

By: Representatives Ehrhart of the 36th, Hitchens of the 161st, Lumsden of the 12th, Carson of the 46th, Taylor of the 173rd, and others

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT**

1 To amend Article 23 of Chapter 2 of Title 20, Chapter 1 of Title 35, and Article 1 of
2 Chapter 6 of Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to traffic safety,
3 general provisions for law enforcement officers and agencies, and general provisions
4 regarding the uniform rules of the road, respectively, so as to authorize certain personnel
5 employed by or volunteering for law enforcement agencies or fire departments to assist in
6 directing and regulating the flow of traffic and to clarify provisions relating thereto; to
7 provide for training requirements; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws;
8 and for other purposes.

9 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:**

10 **SECTION 1.**

11 Article 23 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
12 traffic safety, is amended by revising Code Section 20-2-1131, relating to direction of traffic
13 by school-crossing guards, as follows:

14 "20-2-1131.

15 Any person who is ~~a school-crossing guard~~ designated by a local law enforcement agency
16 as set forth in Code Section 35-1-11 shall be authorized to direct and regulate the flow of
17 traffic at school crossings or within a reduced speed school zone during the time when ~~such~~
18 ~~school-crossing guard he or she~~ is on duty."

19 **SECTION 2.**

20 Chapter 1 of Title 35 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general
21 provisions for law enforcement officers and agencies, is amended by revising Code Section
22 35-1-11, relating to police volunteers for traffic control, as follows:

23 "35-1-11.

24 A police chief of a local law enforcement agency or fire chief of a local fire department,
25 with the approval of the local governing authority, shall be authorized to designate, ~~and~~

26 equip, and train nonsworn police employees and firefighters and volunteers and to provide
27 training to such police volunteers in the area and manner of to assist in traffic control,
28 provided that such individuals have successfully completed at least one hour of a traffic
29 control training program approved by the Georgia Public Safety Training Center. With the
30 approval of the police chief of a local law enforcement agency or fire chief of a local fire
31 department, a police volunteer such individuals shall be authorized to direct and regulate
32 the flow of traffic in the event of a fire, explosion, hurricane, tornado, or other emergency
33 situation. A police volunteer Any such individual who is not certified pursuant to the
34 requirements of Chapter 8 of this title shall not have the power of arrest provided to peace
35 officers."

SECTION 3.

37 Article 1 of Chapter 6 of Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
38 general provisions regarding the uniform rules of the road, is amended by revising Code
39 Section 40-6-2, relating to obedience to authorized persons directing traffic, as follows:

40 "40-6-2.

41 No person shall fail or refuse to comply with any lawful order or direction of any police
42 officer; or firefighter, police employee or volunteer authorized under Code Section
43 35-1-11, or school-crossing guard individual designated by a local law enforcement agency
44 invested by law under Code Section 20-2-1131 with the authority to direct, control, or
45 regulate traffic."

SECTION 4.

47 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.